



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/028,730  
Applicant : Michael Collins  
Filed : 10/19/2001  
TC/A.U. : 3746  
Examiner : Han L Liu

Confirmation No. 4112

Docket No. : 00-682  
Customer No. : 34704

**RECEIVED**  
JAN 23 2004  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313

DECLARATION OF MICHAEL COLLINS,  
RICHARD D'AVERSA AND MICHAEL J. O'BRIEN

1. We, the below signed, are co-inventors of the invention as set forth and claimed in the above-identified pending application. We understand that this application is being rejected based upon another application which was filed on April 21, 2000.
2. Attached hereto is a copy of the invention disclosure for this invention which is dated prior to the aforesaid April 21, 2000 date. As evidenced by this document, we conceived the present invention, as set forth in the claims of the present application, prior to the filing date of the other application.
3. From prior to the filing date of the other application through to constructive reduction to practice of the present application, we exercised diligence in accomplishing the constructive reduction to practice.
4. The invention was constructively reduced to practice through filing of this application on October 19, 2001. From prior to the filing date of the other application through to the filing date of this application, we communicated with in house and outside counsel who prepared this case, reviewed drafts of the application including providing comments on same, and executed documents leading to the filing of the application on the aforesaid date.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Michael Collins  
Michael Collins

January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Date

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Richard D'Aversa

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Date

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Michael J. O'Brien

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Date